Australia’s Humanitarian Action Policy and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy
A Commitment to Appropriate and Effective Humanitarian Action

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Investing in a Safer Future: DRR Policy

• Based on the Hyogo Framework for Action (2005-2015)

• The goal: reduced vulnerability and enhanced resilience of countries and communities to disasters

There are four outcomes:

• Disaster risk reduction is integrated into the Australian aid program

• Capacity of partner governments to reduce disaster risk is strengthened

• Enhanced leadership and advocacy on disaster risk reduction

• Disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation policies are coherent and coordinated
Where is AusAID directly supporting DRR?

• In over 60 countries in Africa, Asia, the Pacific, South America, the Caribbean
• Star performers - Indonesia, Philippines, Vietnam, Bangladesh
• Spending over $102 million per year and growing
• Recent stocktake of activities – good progress being made but more to do
Where to get more information

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2011 Humanitarian Action Policy

Context:

- Old policy/new government
- Growing budget
- Aid review and policy response
- Some ongoing challenges, some new
What Continues?

Effective and appropriate humanitarian action that:

‘saves lives, alleviates suffering and enhances human dignity during and in the aftermath of conflict, natural disasters and other humanitarian crises, as well as to strengthen preparedness for the occurrence of such situations’
Effective Donorship

• The policy is anchored in the principles and good practice of humanitarian donorship

• Meets the needs of and is accountable to affected populations

• Supports partner governments and communities in affected countries, including with disaster preparedness

• Protects the safety, dignity and rights of affected populations

• Is timely and coordinated

• Integrates recovery as part of humanitarian action
What Continues?

- Has flexible multi-year funding – UN, NGOs
- Focuses on Asia-Pacific
- Provides sexual and reproductive health services in emergencies
- Incorporates DRR
What is new?

• Direct response to new policy

• Results:
  • Respond in 48hrs
  • Provide assistance to >25 million people
  • Participate in >20 exercises
  • Simultaneous disasters

• Assist countries self-manage disasters

• Integrate recovery

• Emphasis on protection

• Explicit on civilian-military activities
Questions?